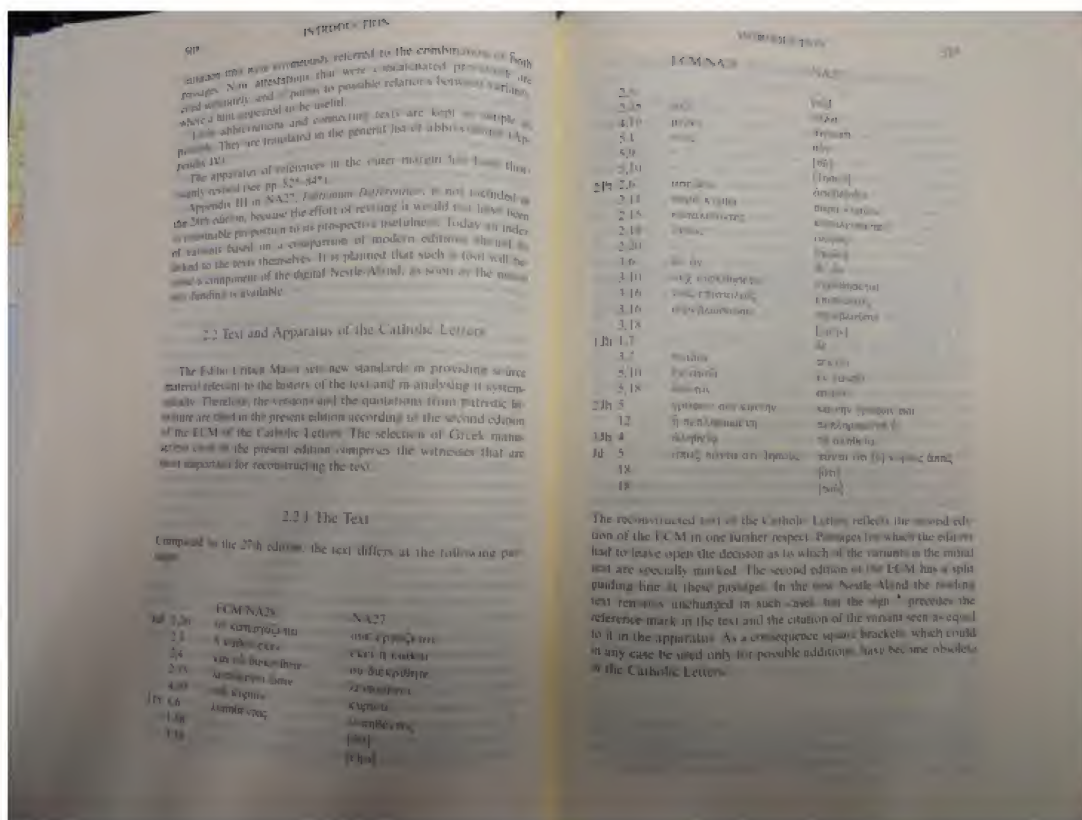


E. Nestle, K. Aland, B. Aland, et al, *Novum Testamentum Graece* <sup>28</sup> (Münster: Deutsch Bibelgesellschaft), 2012. ISBN 978-3-438-05156-1.

The newest member of the Nestle-Aland family, the 28<sup>th</sup> incarnation of the venerable Greek New Testament has just appeared. It is a masterfully done work which in the Catholic Epistles adds substantively to our knowledge of the textual history of the New Testament: this because it relies fully on the recently completed amazingly thorough '*Editio Critica Maior*' of those Epistles. The remainder of this 28<sup>th</sup> edition (the Gospels, the Letters of Paul, and Revelation) are – textually speaking- the same as the 27<sup>th</sup> edition. As the editors put it, this edition has

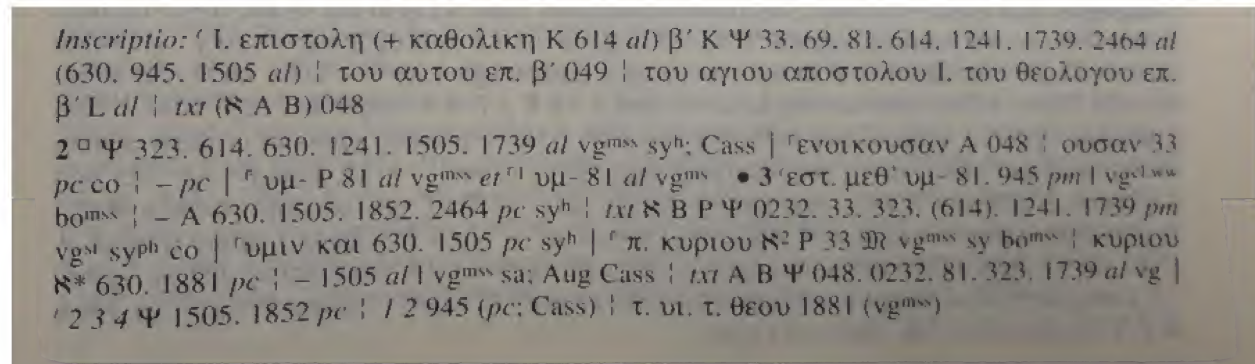
... for the first time in its history a different presentation for different parts of the text. The Catholic Letters were revised according to a fundamentally new concept which in the long run will be adopted for the entire edition. The revision of the remaining texts was confined to a thorough inspection and rearrangement of the apparatus, while the basic structure was left untouched (p. 48).

Consequently, there are not more than several dozen actual textual changes in the new edition in comparison with its forebear:

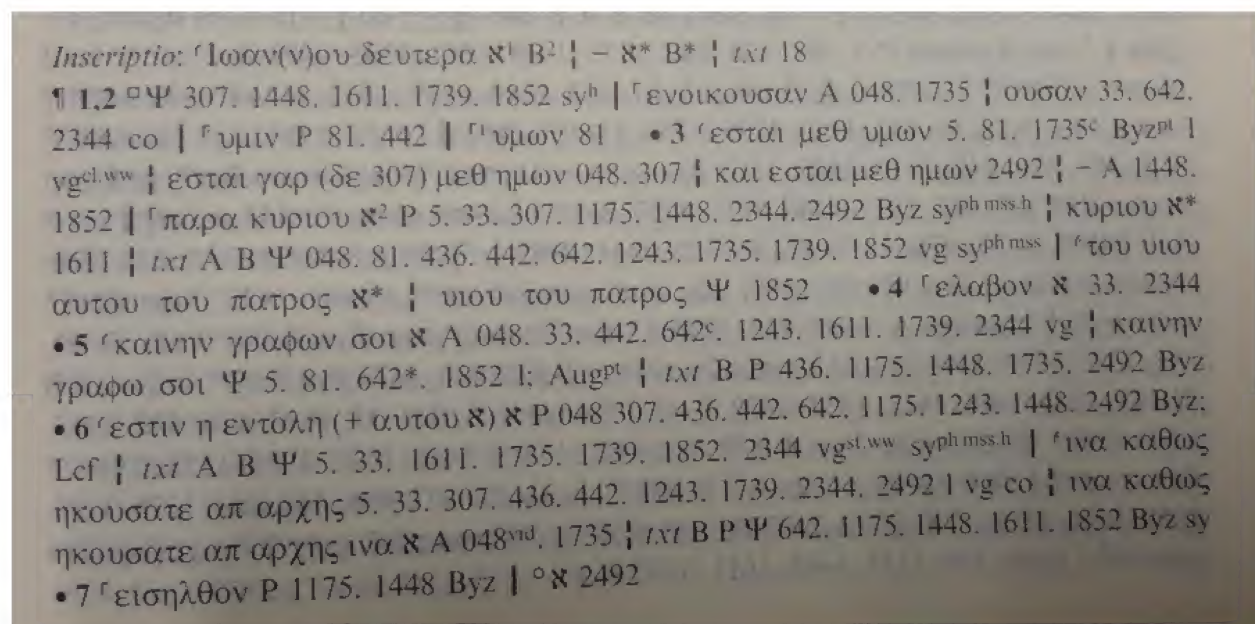


The left column in the table on pp. 50-51 shows the ECM/NA28 reading and the right hand the NA27 reading. These are the only places in the body of the text itself that NA28 differs from NA27.

The other major change, of course, is the textual apparatus itself. Note, first, NA27- at 2 John 1



And now NA28- at 2 John 1



Readers familiar with the textual apparatus of NA27 will notice immediately the several significant changes that NA28 makes. A comparison between the 'inscription' shows the simplification which NA28 has adopted. The apparatus for verse 2 is even more telling, with NA28 listing manuscripts not listed in NA27, and vice versa.

That is the procedure throughout the volume. The textual apparatus has been changed completely in many respects while the body of the text has remained exactly the same (save for the changes noted in the Catholic Epistles in the first image above).



So, for example, NA27 at Mark 1:1-

579 al (vg<sup>cl</sup>) | txt (8 B) pc  
 ¶ 1,1-3 '† - 8\* Θ 28. / 2211 pc sam<sup>s</sup>; Or | - (et om. I. Xp.) Ir Epiph | υιου του κυριου  
 1241 | txt 8<sup>l</sup> B D L W 2427 pc (sed του θ. Af<sup>1.13</sup> 33 38) latt sy co; Ir<sup>lat</sup> | [Lachmann c] |  
 ' 2-4 D Θ f<sup>1</sup> 700. / 844. / 2211 pc; Ir Or<sup>pl</sup> Epiph | τοις προφηταις A W f<sup>13</sup> 38 vgm<sup>s</sup> sy<sup>h</sup>  
 (bo<sup>mss</sup>); Ir<sup>lat</sup> | txt 8 B L Δ 33. 565. 892. 1241. 2427 al syp<sup>hmg</sup> co; Or<sup>pl</sup> | τ'εγω 8 A L W f<sup>13</sup>  
 33 38 vgl<sup>cl</sup> sy<sup>h</sup> sam<sup>s</sup> bo<sup>mss</sup>; Or Eus | txt B D Θ 28\*. 565. 2427. / 2211 pc lat co; Ir<sup>lat</sup> | τ' (M  
 11,10) εμπροσθεν σου Af<sup>1.13</sup> 33 38 f ff<sup>2</sup> l vgl<sup>cl</sup> sy<sup>h</sup> sam<sup>s</sup> bo<sup>pl</sup>; Eus | txt 8 B D K L P W Θ  
 700\*. 2427. / 2211 al lat syp<sup>hmg</sup> bo<sup>pl</sup>; Ir<sup>lat</sup> | τ' του θεου ημων (D) it | τ' (L 3,5s) add Is  
 40,4-8 W (c) • 4'† / -5 B 33. (892). 2427 pc bo<sup>mss</sup> | 2-6 A W f<sup>1.13</sup> 38 sy<sup>h</sup> sa? | 3-5 2 6 D Θ  
 28. 700. / 2211 lat syp | txt 8 L Δ pc bo • 5' 3 5 / 2 D<sup>(2)</sup> W Θ 28. 565. 700. ( / 2211) a | 3-4  
 / 2 Af<sup>1.13</sup> 38 sy<sup>h</sup> | txt 8 B L 33. 892. 1241. 2427. / 844 pc f l vg co? • 6' ην δε ο (- A D W  
 Δ pm) Ιωαννης A D W Θ f<sup>1.13</sup> († 28) 38 it sy<sup>h</sup> sa bo<sup>pl</sup> | txt 8 B L (33. / 2211). 565<sup>c</sup>. 892. 2427  
 pc lat bo<sup>mss</sup> | τ' δεπριν D a et<sup>pl</sup> D it • 7<sup>o</sup> B (Δ 1424. 2542); Or<sup>pl</sup> | ο<sup>l</sup>p) D Θ f<sup>13</sup> 28\*. 565<sup>c</sup>  
 / 844. / 2211 pc it • 8<sup>o</sup> εν A (D) L W (Θ) f<sup>1.13</sup> 38 it | txt 8 B Δ 33. 892\*. 2427. / 2211 pc vgl<sup>cl</sup>  
 Or | ο<sup>l</sup> B L 2427 b l vg | txt 8 A D W Θ f<sup>1.13</sup> 33 38 it vgm<sup>s</sup>; Or

And now in NA28-

¶ 1,1 υιου του θεου (κυριου 1241) A K P Δ f<sup>1.13</sup> 33. 565. 579. 700. 892. 1241. 1424.  
 2542. / 844 38 | - 8\* Θ 28. / 2211 sam<sup>s</sup>; Or | et om. Ιησου Χριστου Ir Epiph | txt 8<sup>l</sup> B D  
 L W Γ latt sy co; Ir<sup>lat</sup> • 2' 2-4 D Θ f<sup>1</sup> 700. / 844. / 2211; Ir Or<sup>pl</sup> Epiph | τοις προφηταις  
 A K P W Γ f<sup>13</sup> 28. 579. 1424. 2542 38 vgm<sup>s</sup> sy<sup>h</sup> (bo<sup>mss</sup>); Ir<sup>lat</sup> | txt 8 B L Δ 33. 565. 892.  
 1241 syp<sup>hmg</sup> co; Or<sup>pl</sup> | τ' εγω 8 A K L P W Γ Δ f<sup>1.13</sup> 28\*. 33. 579. 700. 892. 1241. 1424.  
 2542. / 844 38 vgl<sup>cl</sup> sy<sup>h</sup> sam<sup>s</sup> bo<sup>mss</sup>; Or Eus | txt B D Θ 28\*. 565. / 2211 lat co; Ir<sup>lat</sup> | τ' (M  
 11,10) εμπροσθεν σου A Γ Δ f<sup>1.13</sup> 28. 33. 565. 579. 700\*. 892. 1241. 1424. 2542. / 844 38  
 it<sup>pl</sup> | vgl<sup>cl</sup> sy<sup>h</sup> sam<sup>s</sup> bo<sup>pl</sup>; Eus | txt 8 B D K L P W Θ 700\*. / 2211 lat syp<sup>hmg</sup> bo<sup>pl</sup>; Ir<sup>lat</sup>  
 • 3' του θεου ημων D (it) syp<sup>hmg</sup> | τ' (L 3,5s) add Is 40,4-8 W (c) • 4' / -5 B 33 bo<sup>mss</sup> | 2-5  
 892 | 2-6 A K P W Γ f<sup>1.13</sup> 565. 579. 1241. 1424. 2542. / 844 38 sy<sup>h</sup> sa? | 3-5 2 6  
 (D Θ 28). 700. / 2211 lat syp | txt 8 L Δ bo • 5' 3-6 / 2 A K P Γ Δ f<sup>1.13</sup> 579. 1424 38  
 (sy<sup>h</sup>) | εν τω (- D\*) Ιερουσαλη υπ αυτου D\*<sup>1</sup> W Θ 700. 2542. / 2211 a | εις τον Ιερ-  
 οσαλη υπ αυτου 28. 565 | txt 8 B L 33. 892. 1241. / 844 f l vg co? • 6' ην δε ο (- A D W  
 Δ pm) Ιωαννης A D K P W Γ Δ Θ f<sup>1.13</sup> (28). 565\*. 579. 700. 1241. 1424. 2542. / 844 38  
 sy<sup>h</sup> sa bo<sup>pl</sup> | txt 8 B L 565<sup>c</sup>. 892. (- o 33. / 2211) lat bo<sup>mss</sup> | τ' δεπριν D a | ο<sup>l</sup> D it

Again, the apparatus has been thoroughly re-worked.

Given the facts presented here readers will observe that the body of the text remains unaltered in this new edition of the Greek New Testament except in the Catholics, and that the textual apparatus is

thoroughly revised. Hence, if readers are looking for a completely new text they will not discover it here. If readers are text critics this edition is a virtual treasure trove of valuable material. It is, then, something to be desired by one segment of the guild, and something to be set aside until the *Editio Critica Maior* of the entire New Testament is completed, by another segment of the guild.

For my part, however, the textual apparatus alone – as it includes many newly collated manuscripts – is worth acquiring this new tool for New Testament exegesis. But I'm now very eager to see the entire *ECM* project concluded and its results incorporated in future editions of Nestle-Aland.

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